

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EA-07 MC-02 /040 W
-----100486 181454Z /50

R 181433Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5794

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 20732

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, FR, UR, US

SUBJ: COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR THE SOVIET MACHINE TOOL
INDUSTRY

REFS: A. STATE 146919; B. STATE 155626; C. PARIS
19274

BEGIN SUMMARY: MINISTER ECON AFFAIRS HARLAN PRESENTED
NOTE ON ENIMS TO PHILIPPE CUVILLIER, DIRECTOR OF
ECONOMIC COOPERATION AT QUAI, JULY 12, PER REFTELS.
CUVILLIER REFUSED TO COMMIT HIS AUTHORITIES BEYOND
STATING THAT NO REQUEST HAD BEEN SUBMITTED TO FRANCE BY
ENIMS FOR SUCH EQUIPMENT AND THAT IF SUCH A REQUEST
WERE RECEIVED IT WOULD BE TREATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
FRANCE'S COCOM OBLIGATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. MINISTER-COUNSELOR ECON AFFAIRS HARLAN, ACCOMPANIED
BY U.S. COCOM DEL CALLED ON PHILIPPE CUVILLIER JULY 12 TO
DELIVER NOTE PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS REFTELS.
CUVILLIER, WHO HAD FRENCH COCOM DEL ALLEX-LYOU DI WITH
HIM, APPEARED WELL BRIEFED ON ENIMS SUBJECT. AFTER
READING U.S. NOTE HE STATED THAT HE WAS PUZZLED WHY
U.S. HAD DECIDED TO APPROACH FRENCH BILATERALLY ON THIS
ISSUE RATHER THAN USE NORMAL COCOM CHANNELS. HE NOTED
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THAT THE EQUIPMENT DESCRIBED IN THE U.S. NOTE WOULD FALL
WITHIN THE TERMS OF NOTE 12 COMPUTER DEFINITION AND
WOULD IN ANY EVENT REQUIRE AN EXCEPTION REQUEST TO BE
SUBMITTED TO COCOM. ALL COCOM MEMBERS WOULD THEREFORE
BE ABLE TO PRONOUNCE ON ANY SUCH PROPOSED EXPORT WITHIN
THE EXCEPTION REQUEST CONTEXT.

2. U.S. SIDE RESPONDED BY NOTING FIRST THAT THIS APPROACH WAS CHOSEN TO UNDERSCORE IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHED TO THIS ENIMS ISSUE AND THAT SECONDLY, IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT EQUIPMENT SUITABLE FOR ENIMS INTENDED END-USE COULD BE CONFIGURED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO BE TREATED AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE EXCEPTION UNDER NOTE 9. THAT NOTE, AS OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES, IT WAS EXPLAINED, REQUIRED THAT THE EXPORTING GOVERNMENT ASSURE ITSELF OF THE CIVILIAN CHARACTER OF THE END-USE. IN THIS CASE THE UNITED STATES WISHED TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE FRENCH THAT THE END-USE WAS STRATEGIC AND THEREFORE NOT ACCEPTABLE. THE OTHER POTENTIAL COCOM SUPPLIERS, JAPAN, GERMANY AND THE UK HAD ALL INDICATED THEIR AGREEMENT WITH THIS VIEWPOINT. MINISTER HARLAN ALSO STATED THAT U.S. WAS WELL AWARE OF CLOSE COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE SOVIET UNION IN THE AREA OF MACHINE TOOLS AND THAT THE U.S. WAS NOT ADVOCATING BY THIS APPROACH AN EMBARGO OF ALL GOODS AND EQUIPMENT TO ENIMS, BUT RATHER WAS SIMPLY SEEKING CONFIRMATION THAT FRANCE AGREES WITH US THAT COMPUTER EQUIPMENT DESTINED FOR THE DESCRIBED END-USE SHOULD NOT BE PROVIDED. HARLAN ALSO REFERRED TO THE DILEMMA EXPRESSED IN PARA 6 A AND B REFTEL A IN THIS REGARD.

3. CUVILLIER INITIALLY RESPONDED BY QUESTIONING THE

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EA-07 MC-02 /040 W
-----100550 181453Z /50
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5795
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 20732

EFFICACY OF EMBARGOING COMPUTERS ACCORDING TO THEIR END-USE RATHER THAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR CHARACTERISTICS. THE COCOM COUNTRIES, HE SAID, WERE NOT REALLY ABLE TO CONTROL THE DIVERSION OF SUCH EQUIPMENT TO STRATEGIC USE ONCE IT HAS BEEN SHIPPED TO THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. ANOTHER COMPUTER ALREADY IN THE EAST COULD ALWAYS BE DIVERTED TO THIS END-USE HE SAID, DEPENDING ON THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO IT. IN ANY EVENT, HE SAID, FRANCE DOES NOT NOW HAVE ANY REQUEST FOR ENIMS FOR SUCH EQUIPMENT BEFORE IT. HE COULD NOT THEREFORE TAKE A POSITION NOW REGARDING HOW HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD VIEW SUCH A REQUEST. HE COULD SAY, HOWEVER, THAT FRANCE WOULD RESPECT HER COCOM OBLIGATIONS, THAT SHE WOULD SUBMIT AN EXCEPTION REQUEST, IF ONE WERE REQUIRED BY COCOM RULES, FOR SUCH A REQUEST, AND THAT SHE WOULD JUDGE ANY SUCH REQUEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH COCOM PRINCIPLES.

4. WITH REGARD TO THE U.S. CONCERNS, HE SOUGHT TO ASSURE HIS U.S. VISITORS WITH THE ASSERTION THAT "IT WOULD COME OUT ALL RIGHT" BUT SAID HE COULD NOT STATE AT THIS TIME THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD VIEW SUCH AN END-USE AS STRATEGIC AND THEREFORE INELIGIBLE FOR SUCH EQUIPMENT. HE PROMISED TO SEND A FORMAL RESPONSE IN DUE CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: MACHINE TOOL INDUSTRY, COMPUTERS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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